



Surveillance Test Articles Development

January 2024

Changing the World's Energy Future

Ting-Leung Sham, Heramb Prakash Mahajan



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
NUCLEAR ENERGY

Surveillance Test Articles Development

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Idaho National Laboratory

January 17, 2024

Overview Of Previous Work at ANL



Large specimens

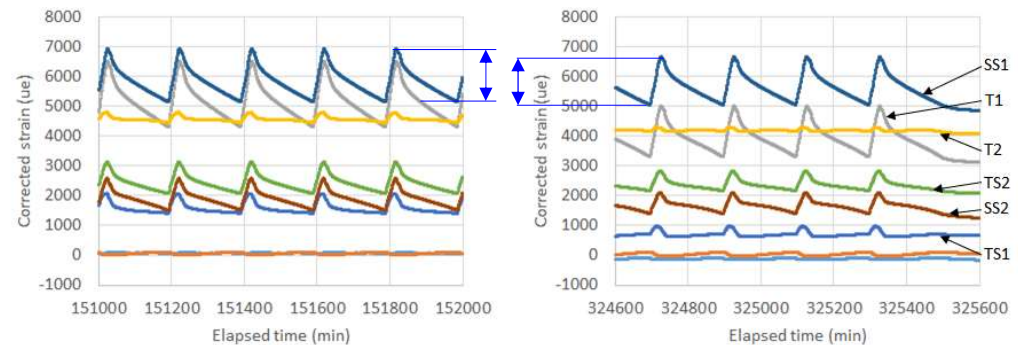


Small specimens

- Initial designs tested with A617 driver
- 3 families of specimens
 - Large: demonstrate failure during test
 - Small: demonstrate realistic-sized samples
 - Reference: to validate the strain-gauge thermal strain correction
- Thermal cycling between 500 and 650°C, over a period of about 200 minutes

Overview Of Previous Work at ANL Contd.

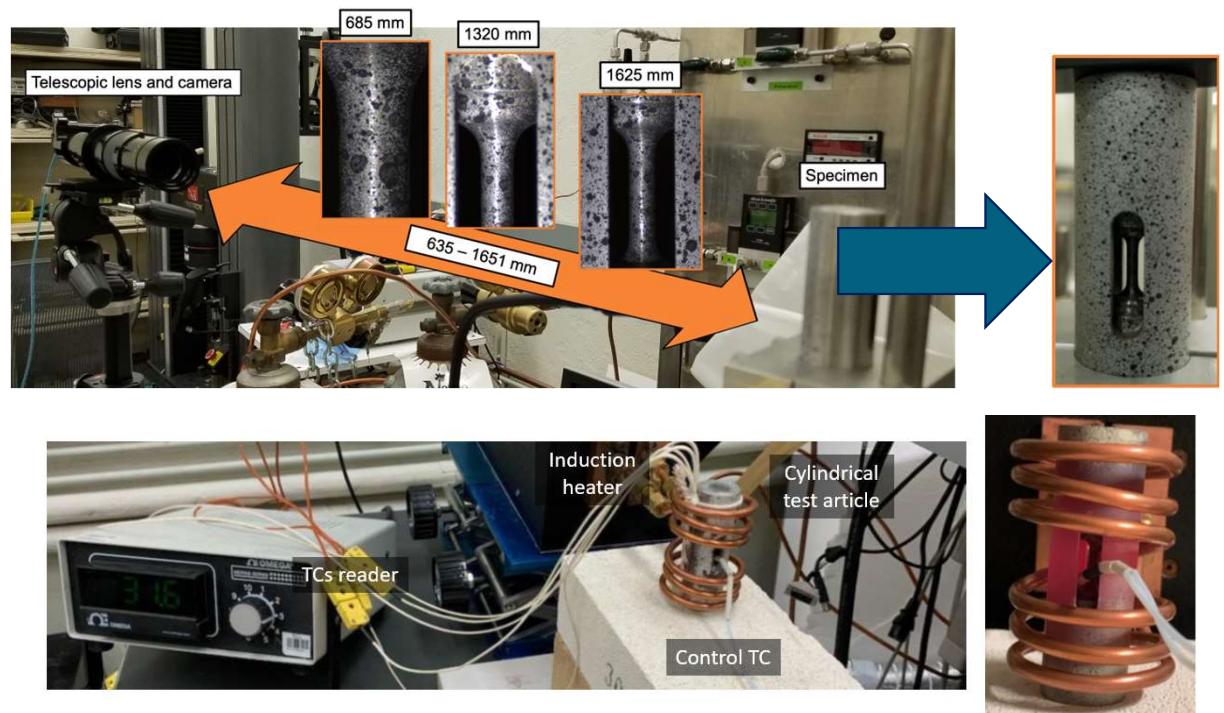
- Demonstrated basic surveillance approach
- Large specimens failed in gauge section
- The bimetallic welds appeared intact at the end of testing (316H-A617)
- Gradual decrease in strain range over time
- Strain gauge reliability was an issue: at least one gauge failed
- Failure mode (buckling) was not what we had expected



Buckling deflection

Overview Of Previous Work at INL

- Induction heating setup with DIC
- Speckle pattern
- Optimization of DIC setup
- Specimen design not suitable for induction heating



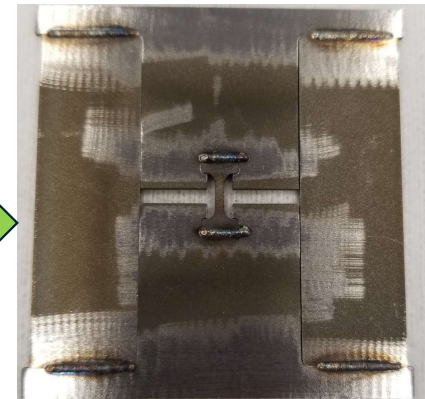
Surveillance Test Article – Development History



Large test articles
300 mm long
25 mm diameter



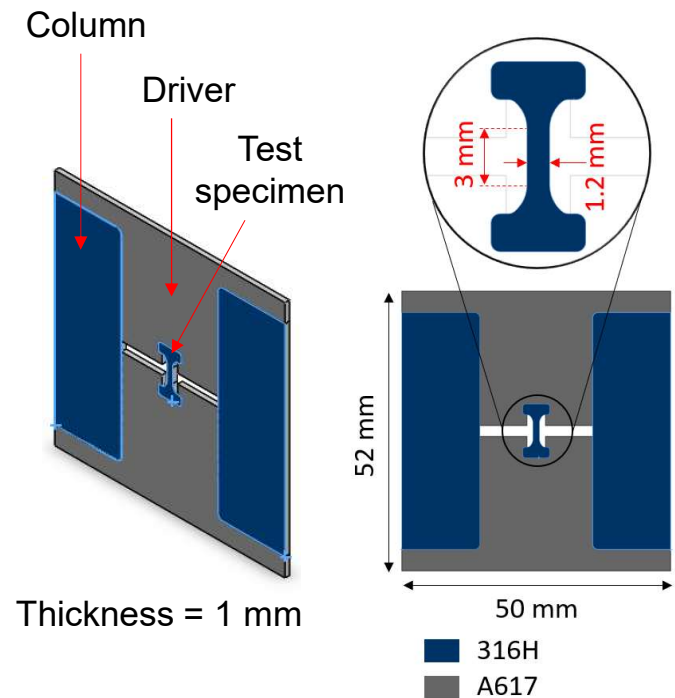
Small test articles
75 mm long
25 mm diameter



Flat test articles
52x50x1 mm

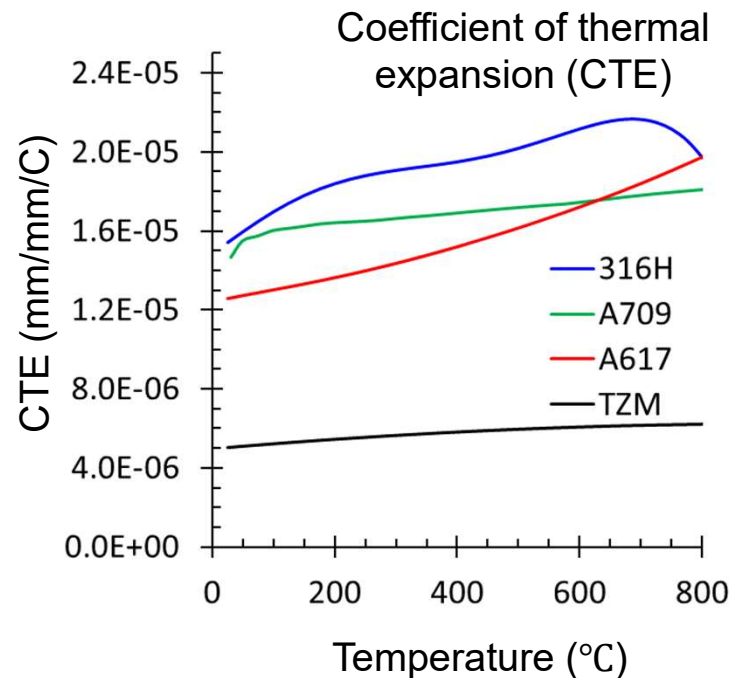
New Surveillance Test Article

- Easier to manufacture
- Easier to instrument and monitor during the validation
- Smaller and less disruptive to fluid flow/plan operation
- Design is more accessible for evaluation and mechanical testing after the test articles are removed from the reactor; also, smaller activated volume



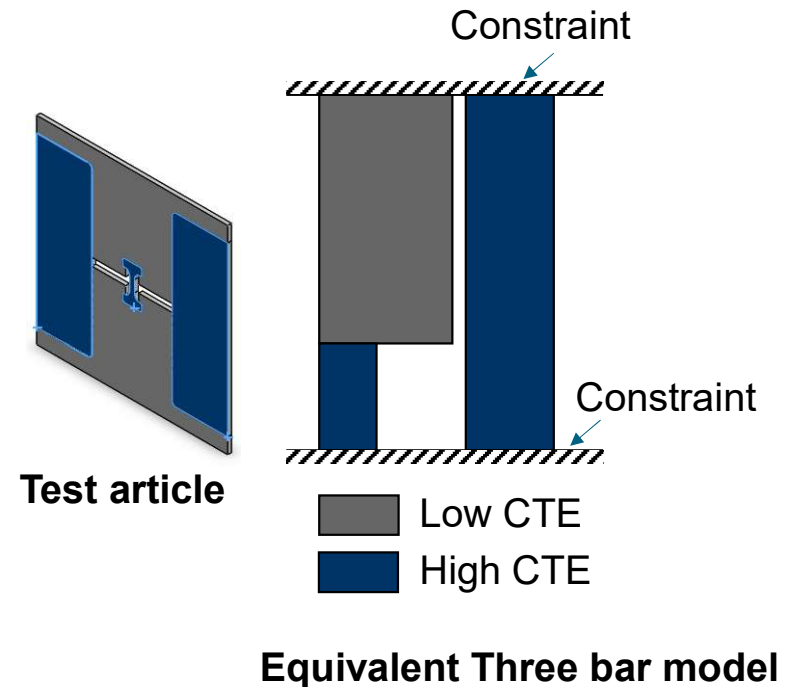
Selected Materials For Thermal Mismatch

- **First sample set –**
 - 316H as test material
 - A617 as a driver material
- **Second sample set –**
 - A709 as test material
 - TZM as a driver material



Test Article Design Approach

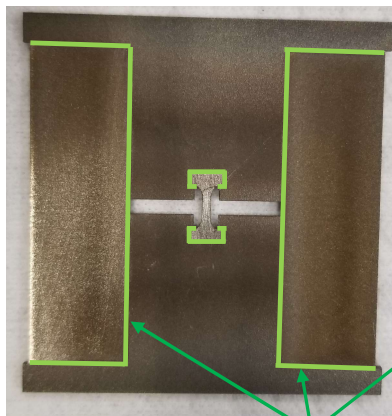
1. Initial design with a three-bar model approach with target strain range and elastic follow-up
2. Detailed geometry optimization with a Finite-Element analysis



Test Article Fabrication

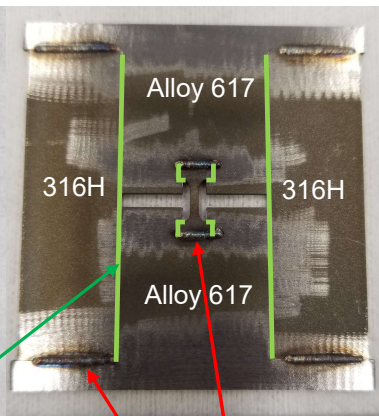
Welded test article

Pre-weld test article assembly



Gaps

Welded test article



Weld lines

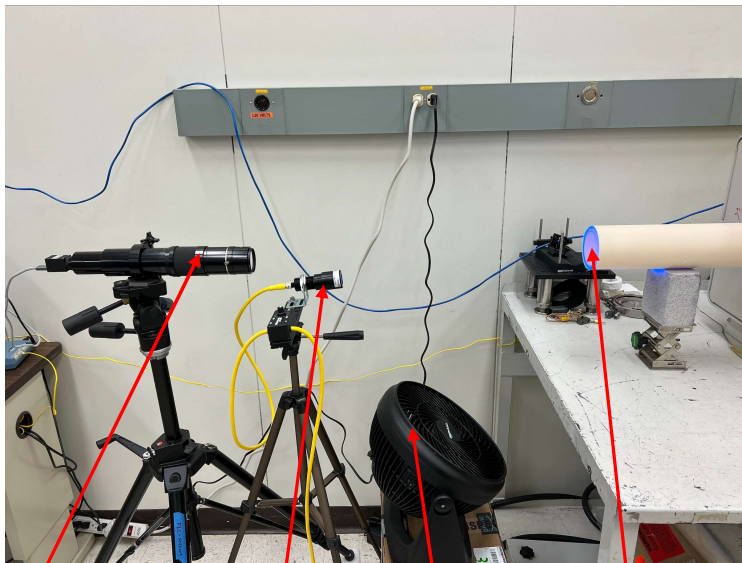
Interlocking test article

Test article assembly



Furnace Heating and DIC Setup

Digital Image Correlation (DIC)



Camera + Blue
light filter

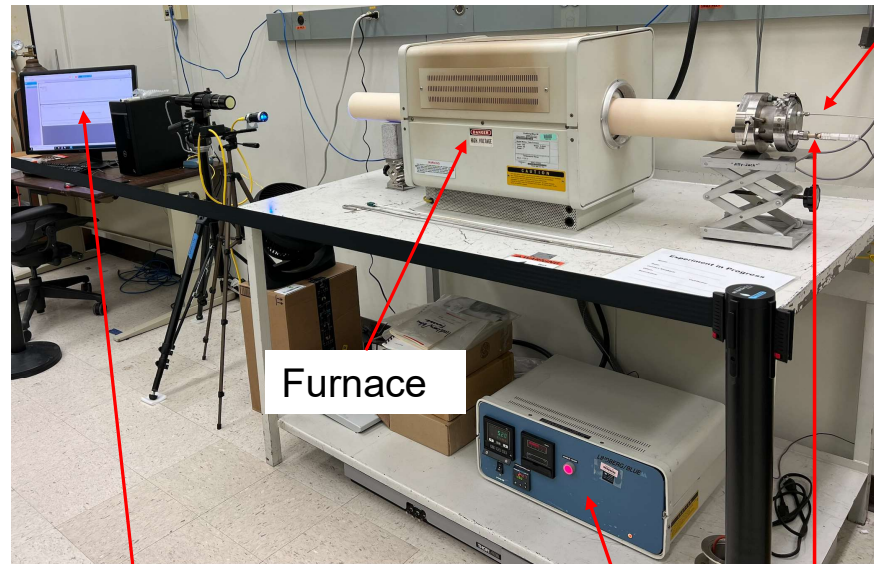
Blue light

Fan

Quartz glass
window

Furnace heating setup

Monitoring
thermocouple



Furnace

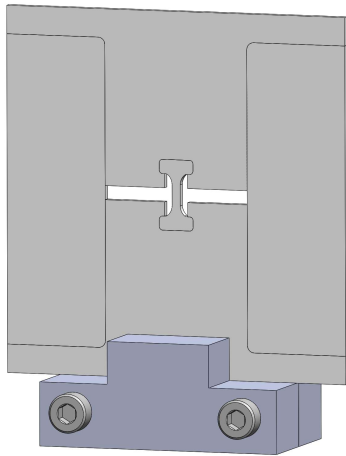
Data and image
acquisition system

Furnace
controller

Furnace control
Thermocouple

Specimen Holder

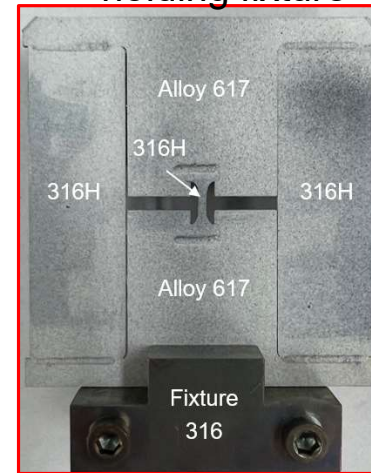
Design of Specimen +
holding fixture



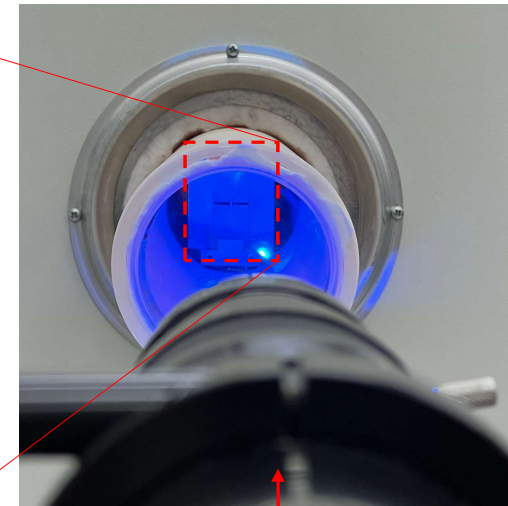
Interlocking Specimen
+ holding fixture



Welded Specimen
+ holding fixture

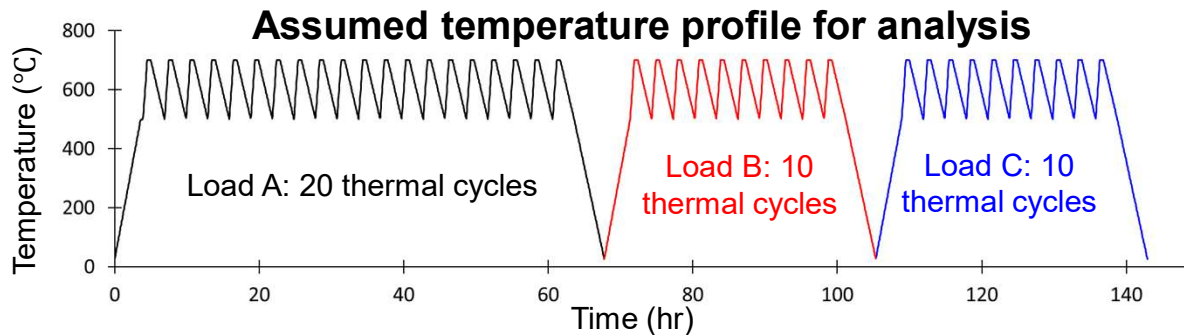


View of test article

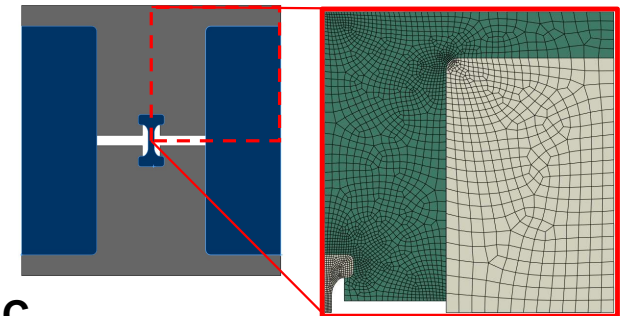


Camera + Blue
light filter

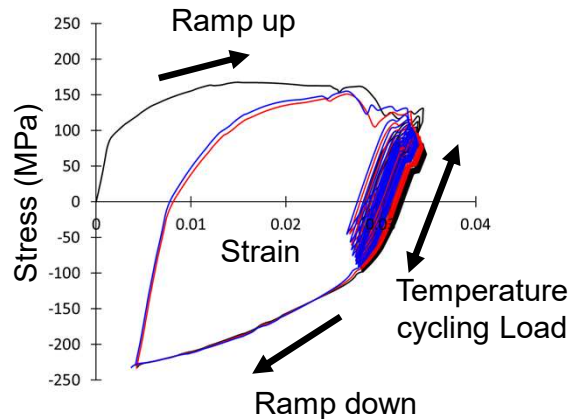
Test Article Analysis Results



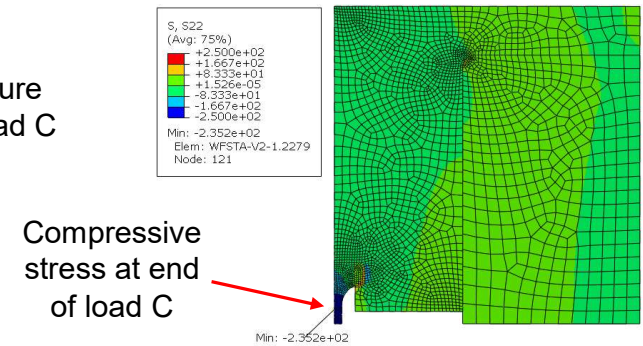
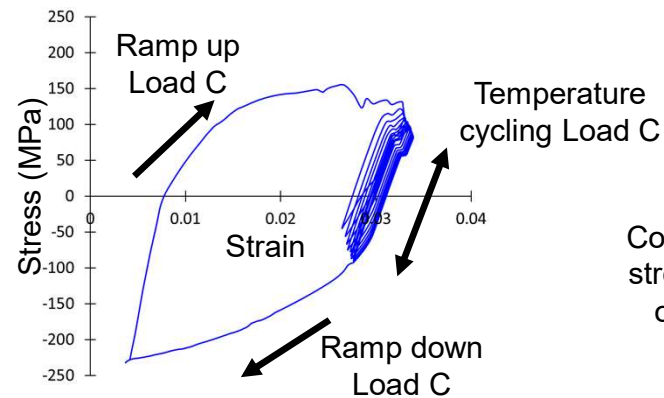
Finite Element Analysis



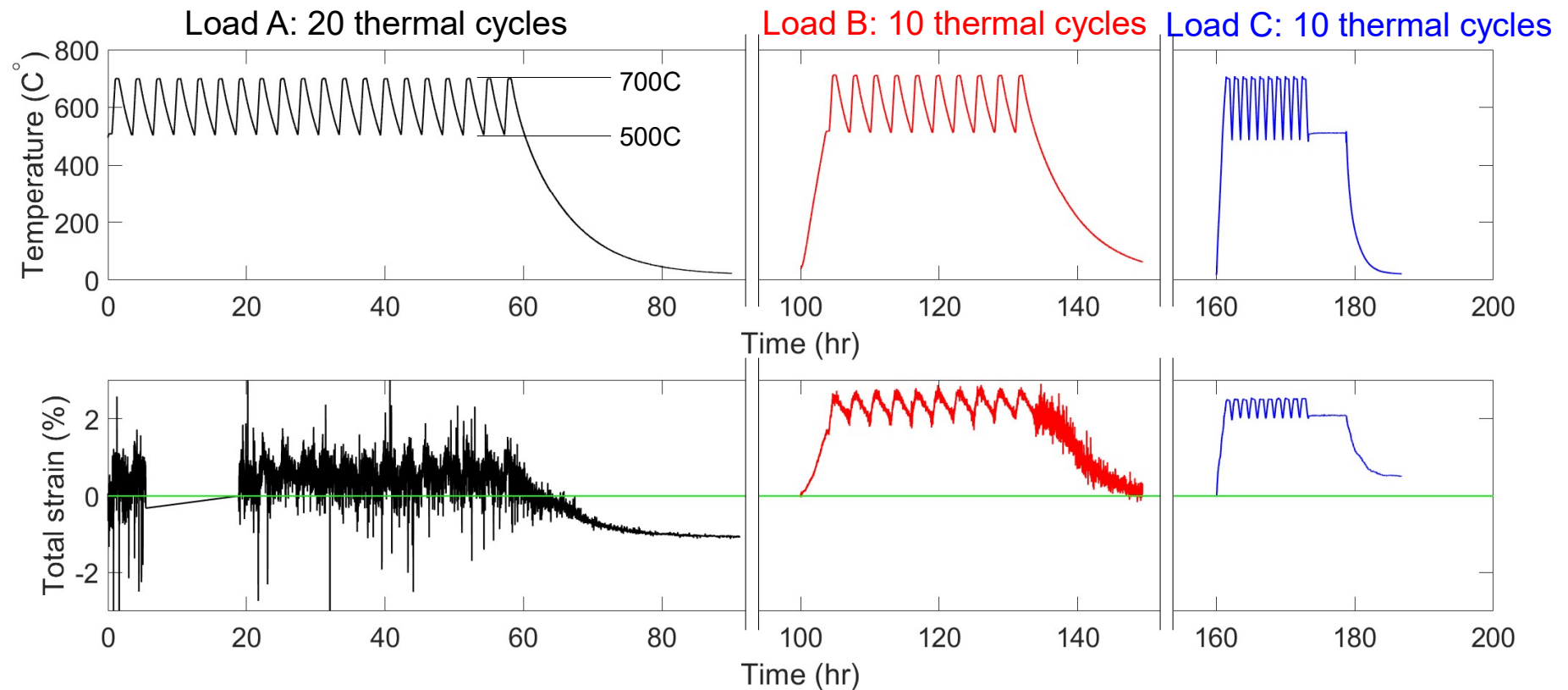
Stress-strain response



Stress-strain response of Load C

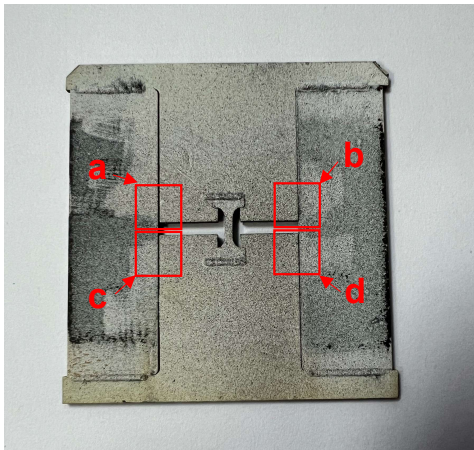


Thermal Cycling Of Welded Sample

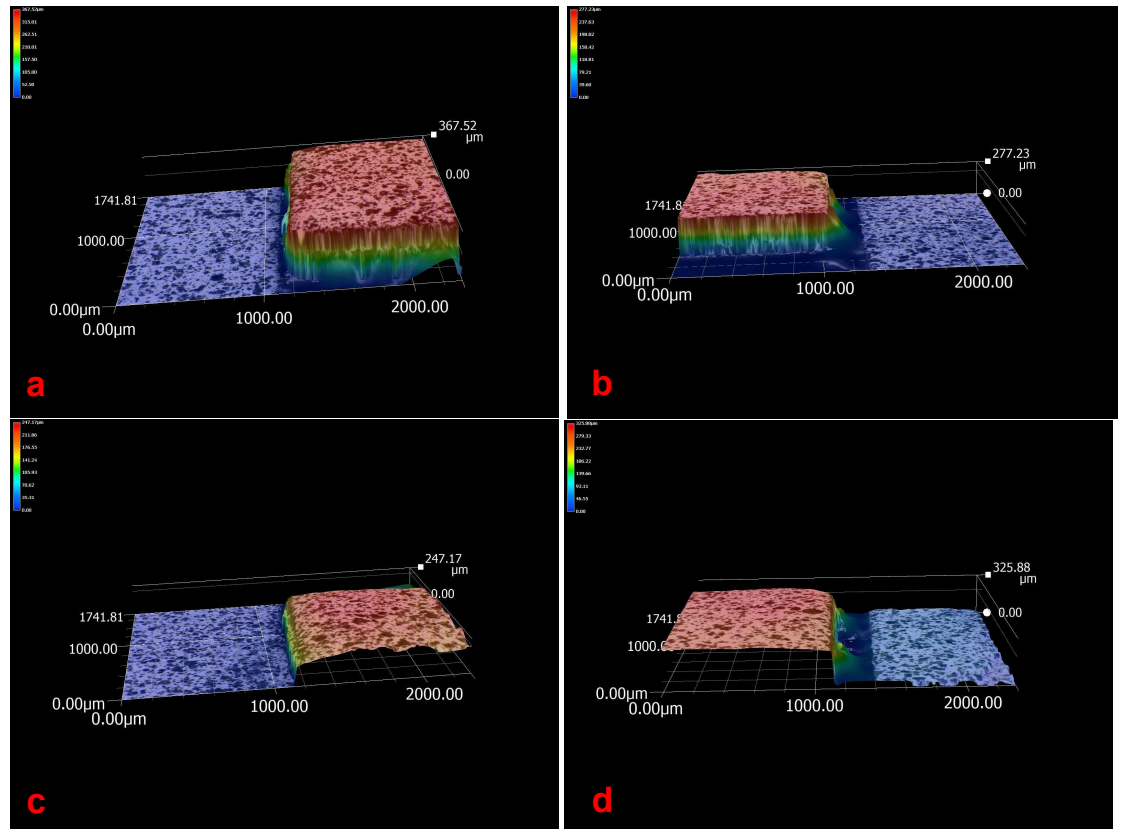
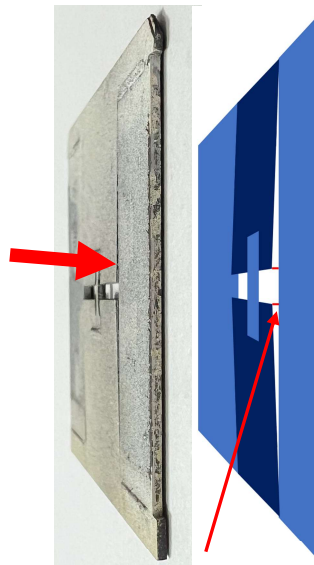


Bending Of Sample After Load A

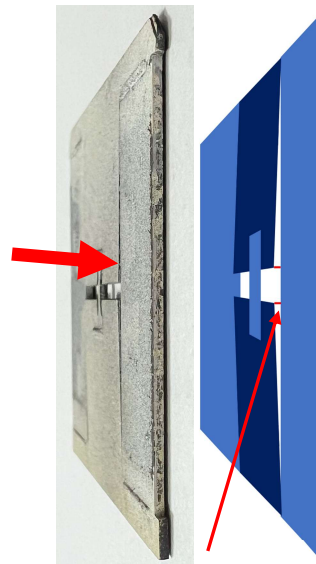
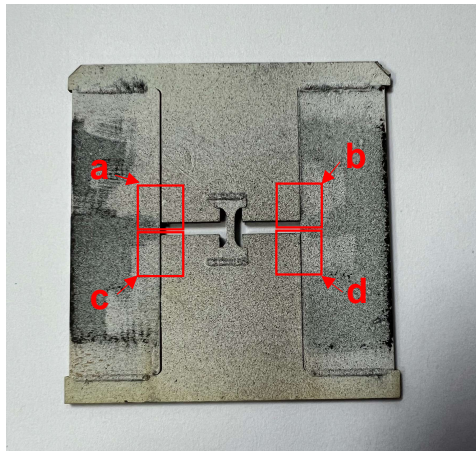
Out-of-plane bending



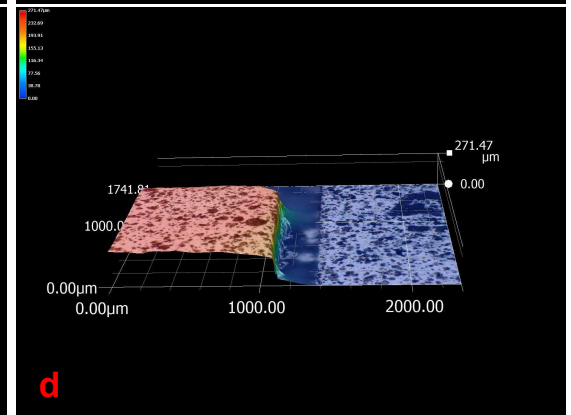
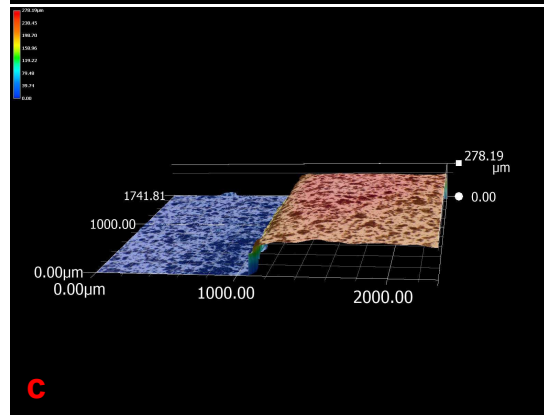
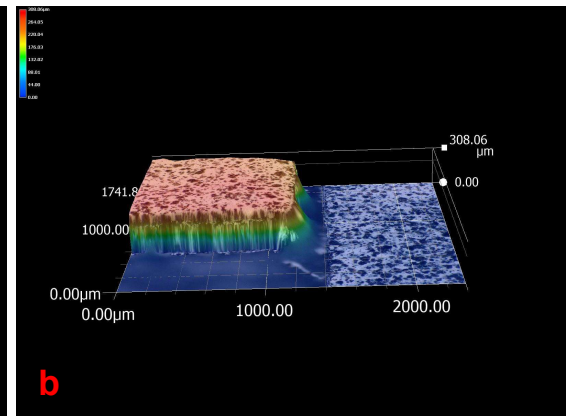
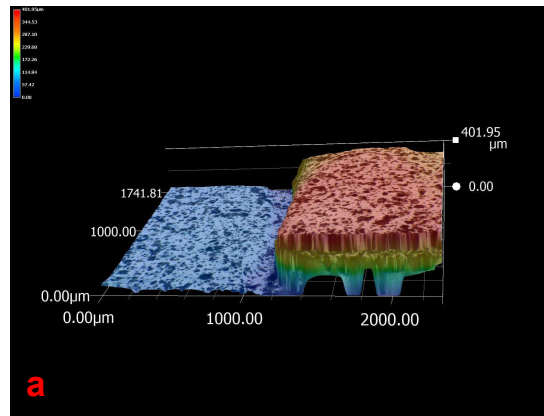
Schematic figure highlighting bending



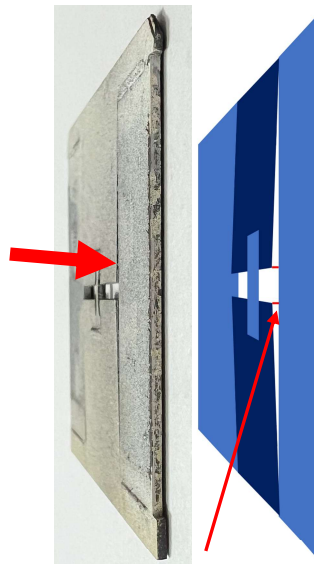
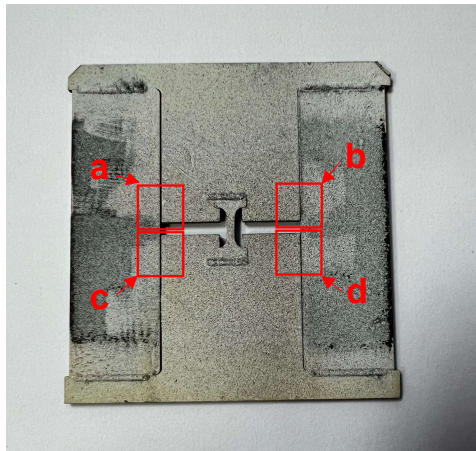
Bending Of Sample After Load B



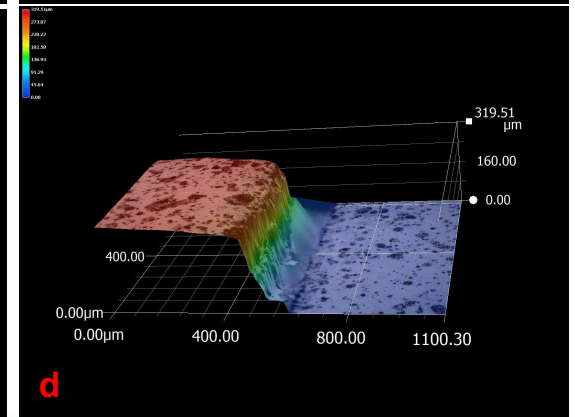
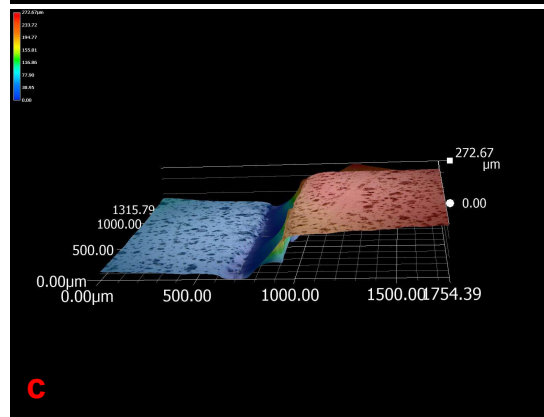
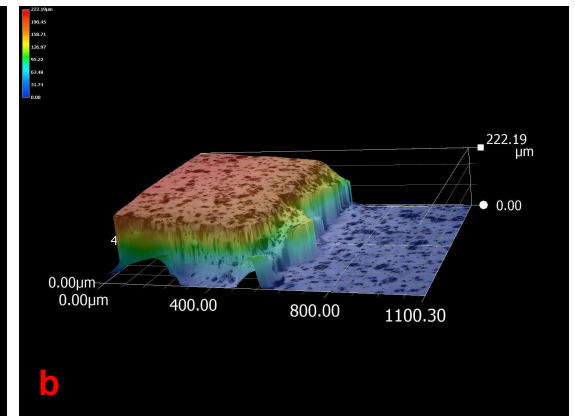
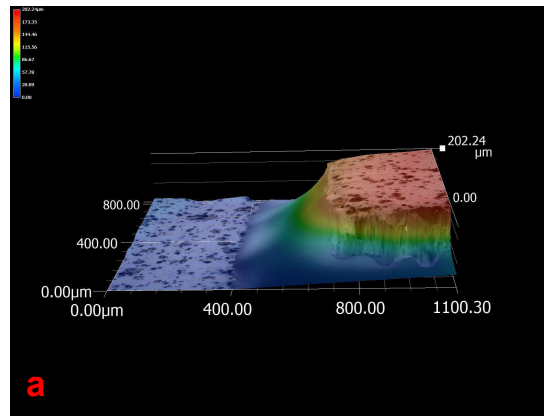
Schematic figure highlighting bending



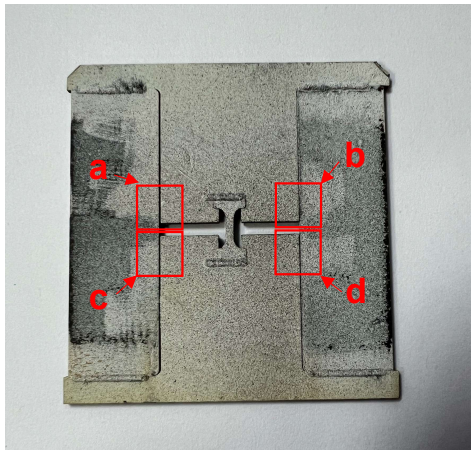
Bending Of Sample After Load C



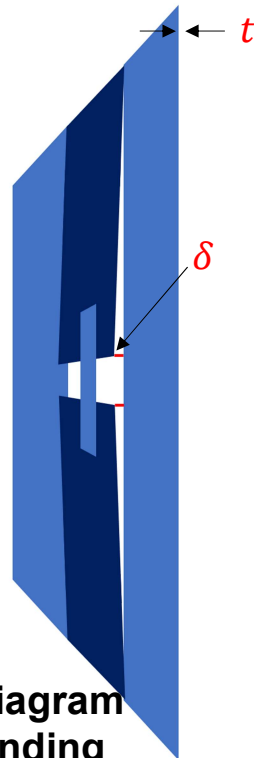
Schematic figure highlighting bending



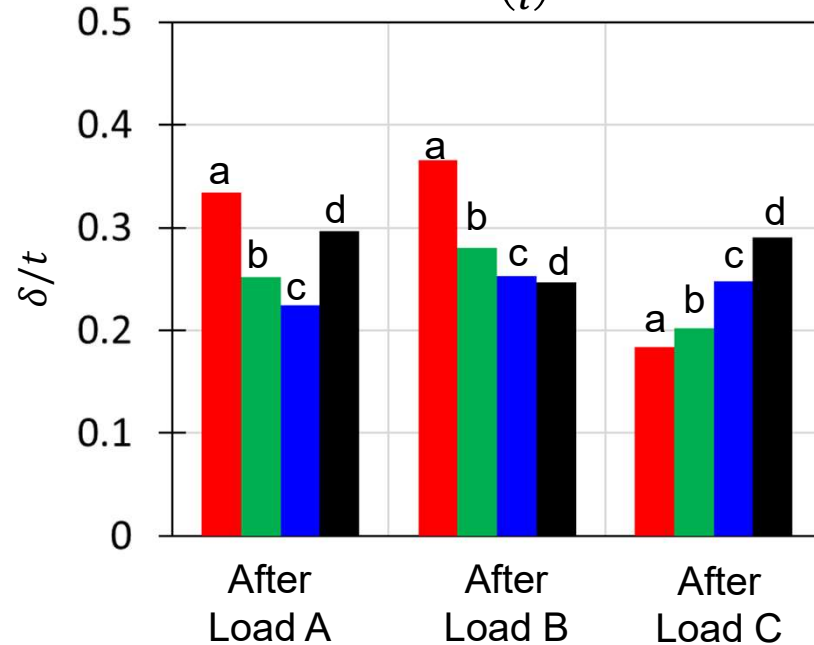
Out-of-plane Bending of Sample



Schematic diagram showing bending

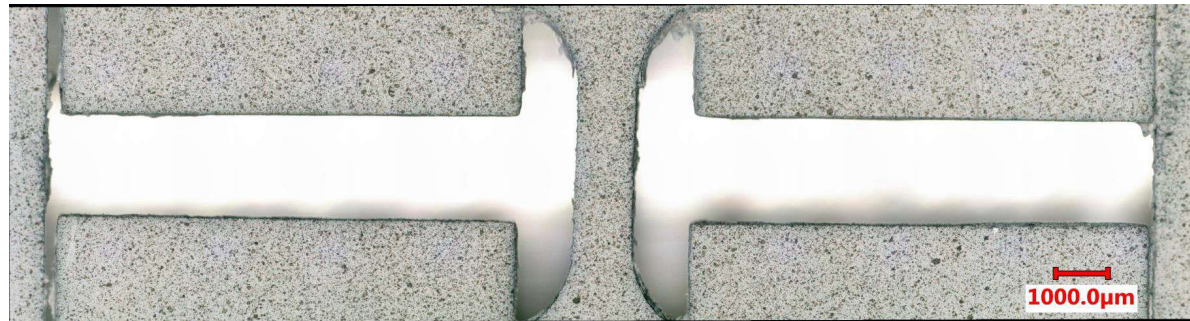


Normalized out-of-plane deformation at the end of each load ($\frac{\delta}{t}$) at four points

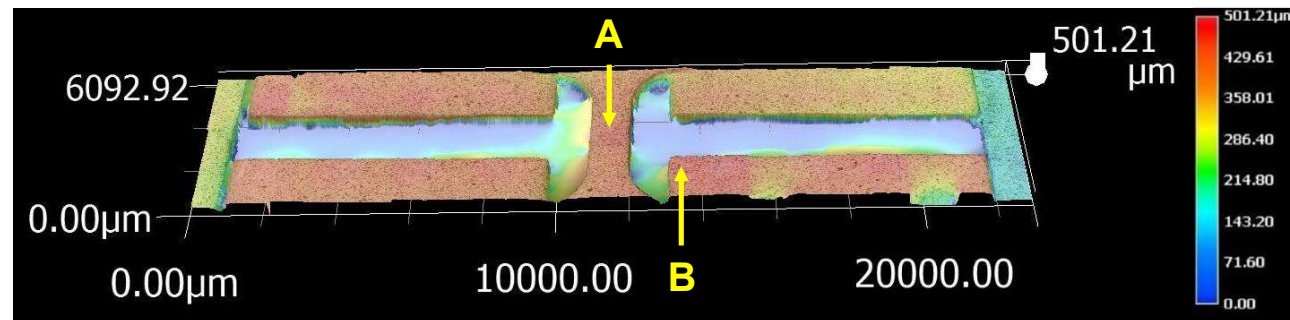


Out-of-plane Bending of Sample Contd.

2D overview of
the test article



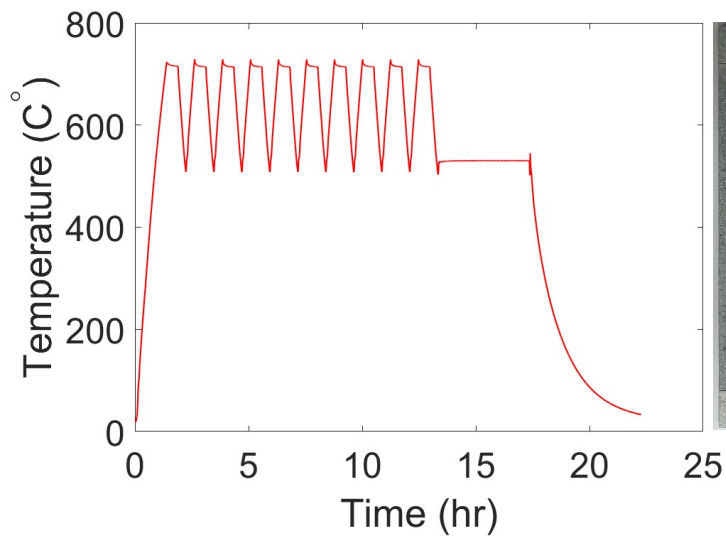
Contour plot
showing out of
plane deformation
of test article



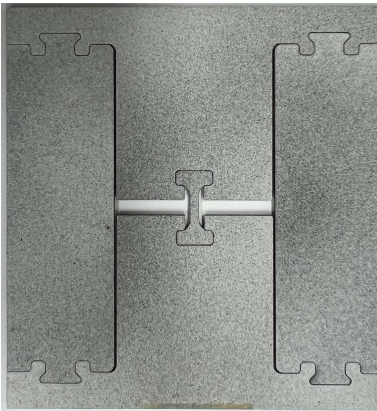
Out of plane
deformation

Thermal Cycling Of Interlocking Sample

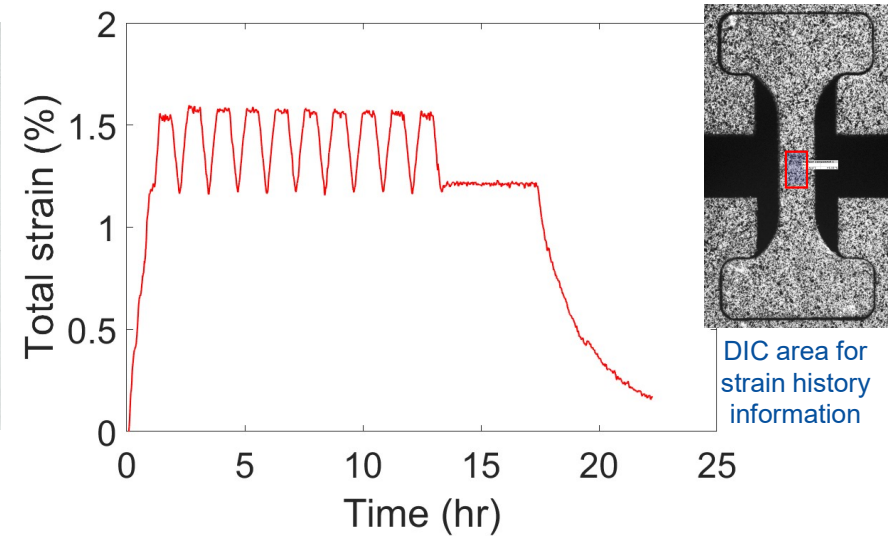
Temperature history



Specimen

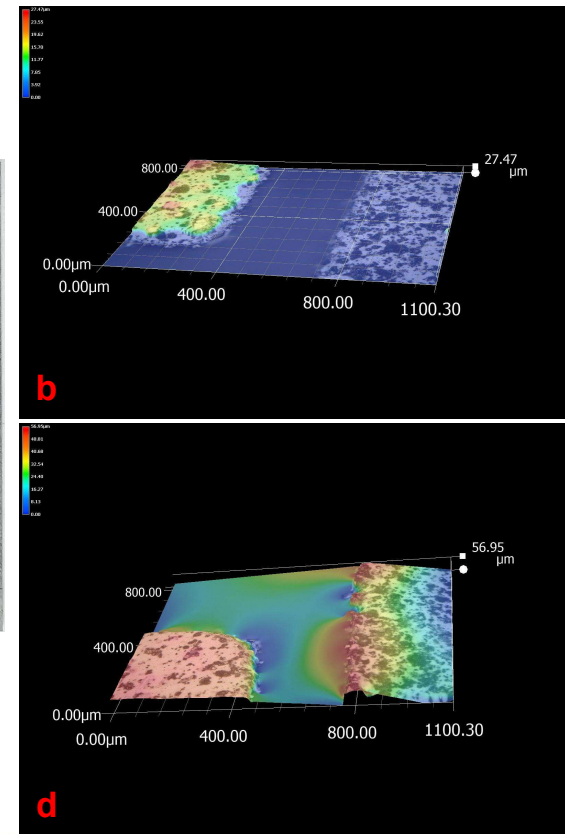
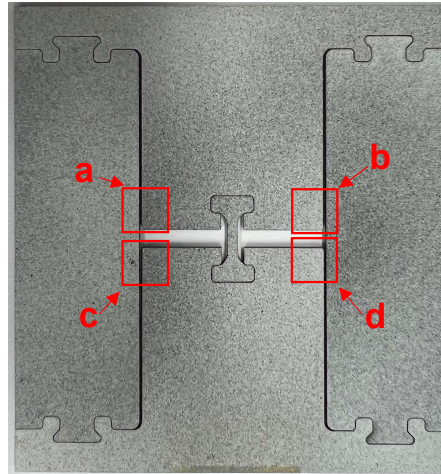


Measured strain profile



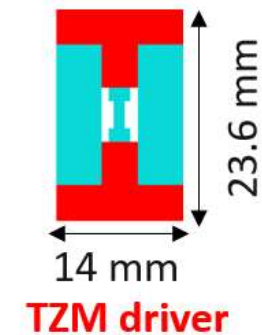
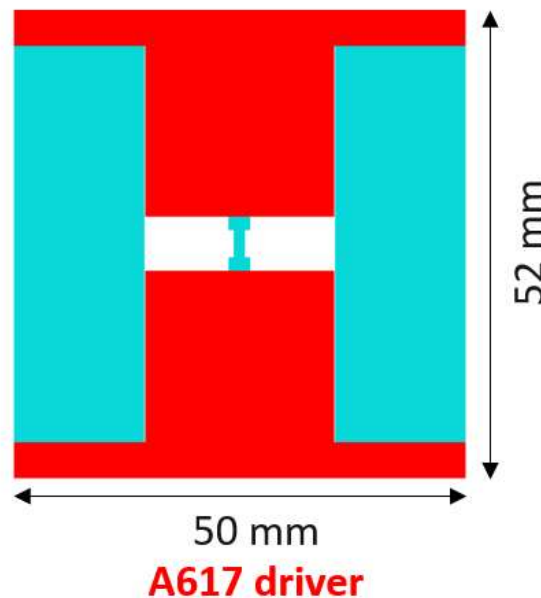
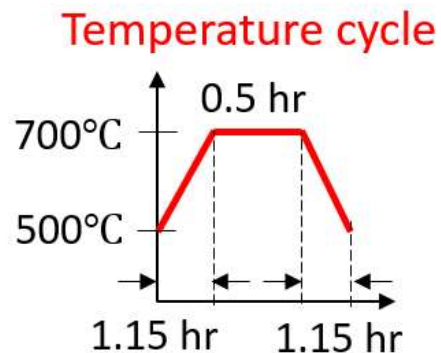
Bending Of Interlocking Sample

- Negligible bending after final cooldown
- Specimen could be removed from the test article for post-test non-destructive evaluation and reloaded back in the test article



Interlocking Sample Design With Higher Thermal Mismatch

Schematic figure showing influence of driver material with larger expansion coefficient mismatch

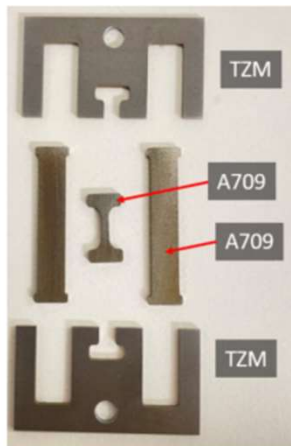


Interlocking Sample Design With TZM And A709

Interlocking TZM sample fabrication approach



Test article design

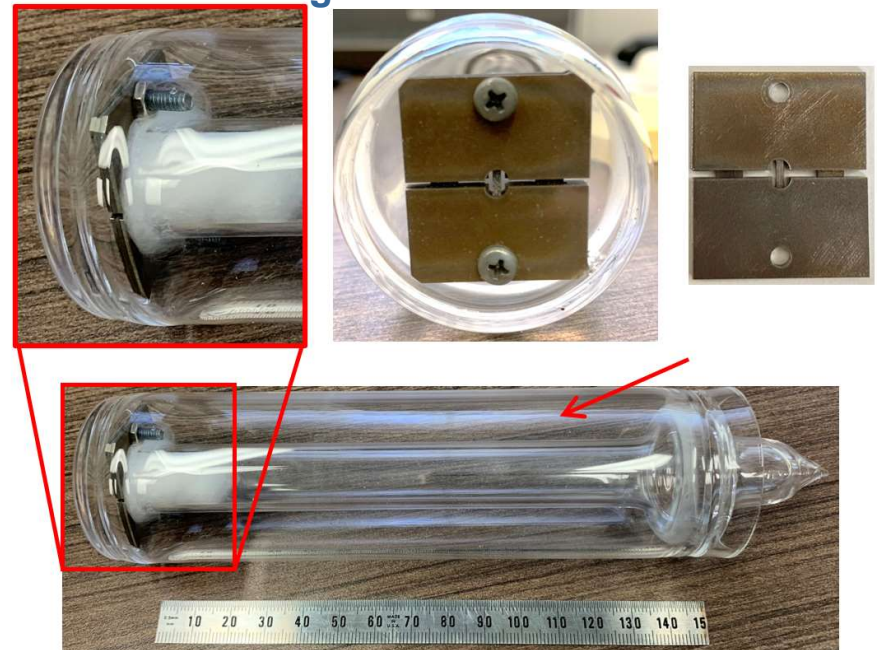


Interlocking assembly



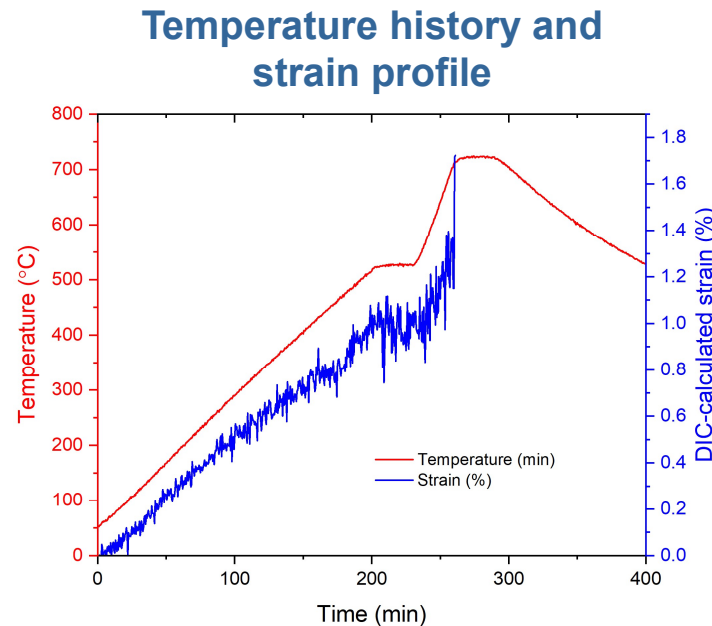
Assembly with top and bottom cover plates

Glass enclosure for TZM samples to mitigate air oxidation

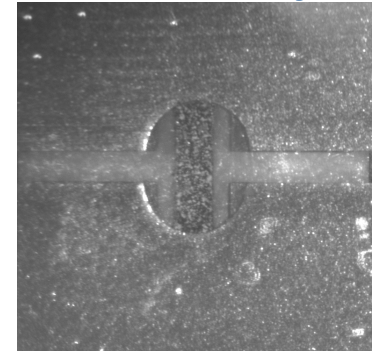


Interlocking Sample Design With TZM And A709

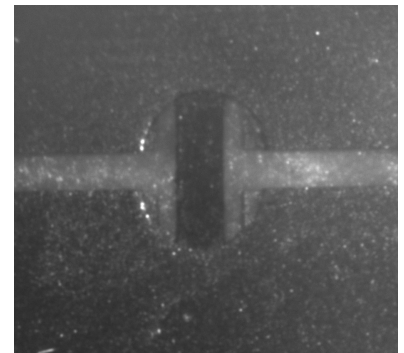
- Test assembly in furnace
- Speckles applied using high temperature paint were destroyed at higher temperature
- Development of LASER engraving technique is in progress



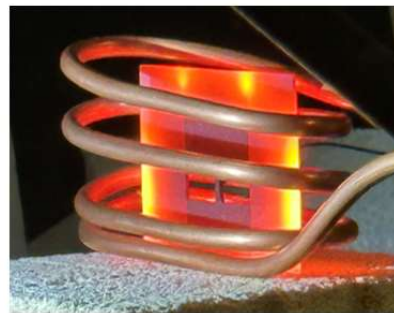
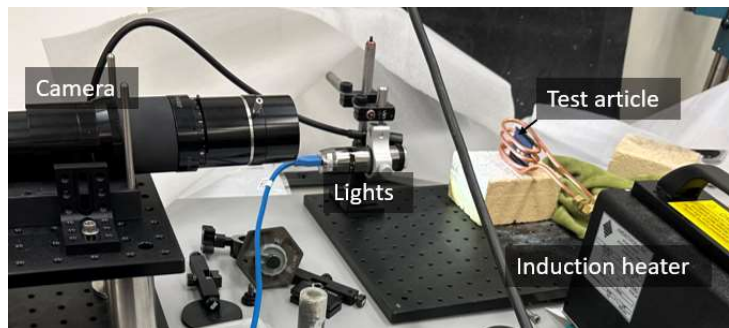
Before thermal cycling



After thermal cycling



Induction Heating Setup – Lessons Learned



- **First version of induction coil design**

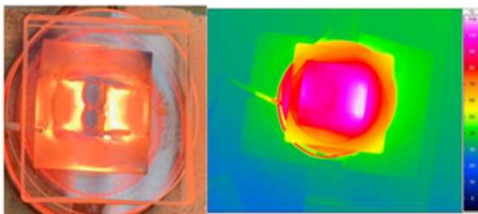
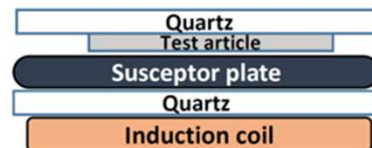
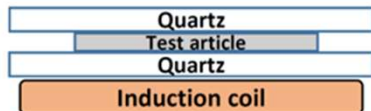
- Large temperature gradients and 'Hot spots' in test articles

- **Second version of coil design**

- No 'hot-spots'

- **Second version of coil design + susceptor plate**

- Improved temperature uniformity



Heating of specimen Temperature distribution

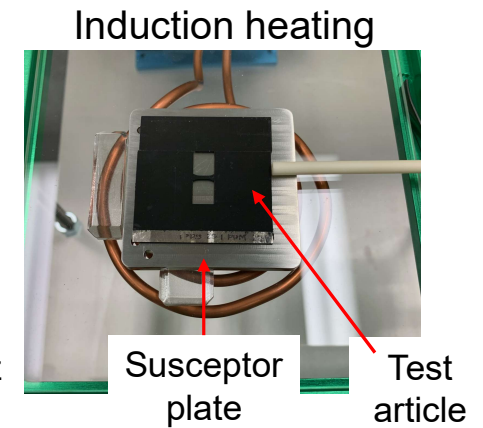
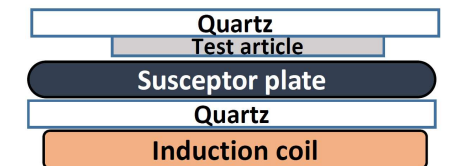
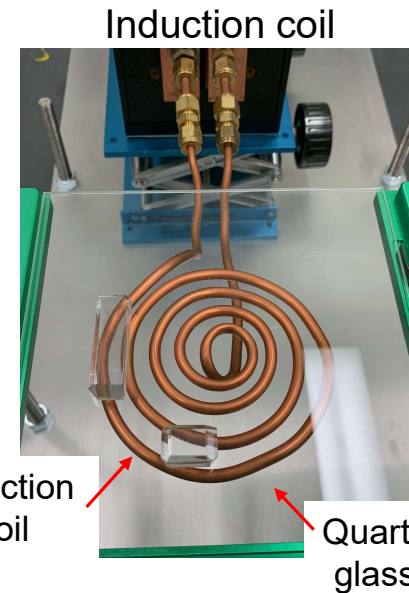
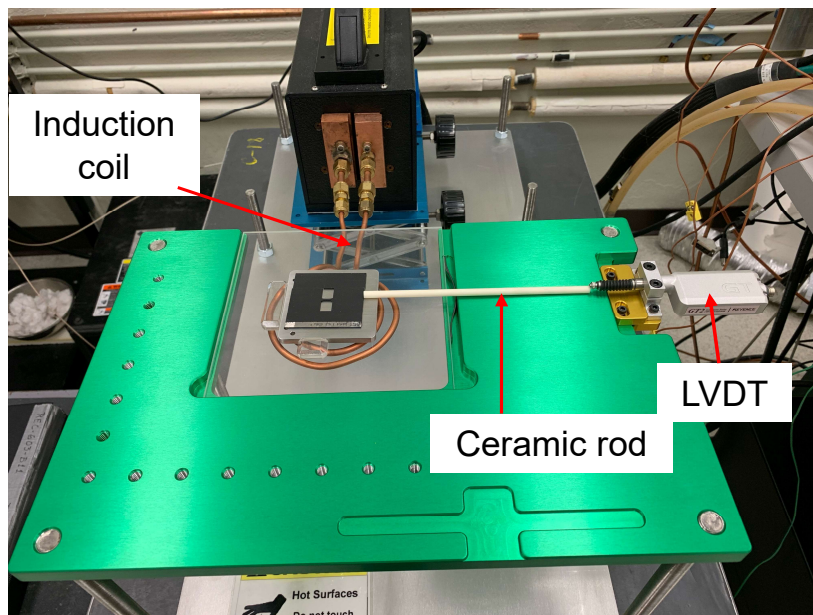


Test article
Susceptor plate

Heating of specimen

Induction Heating Setup Allowing Higher Heat Up And Cool Down Rates

Induction Test setup with susceptor plate

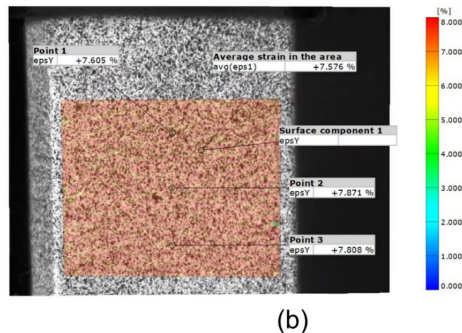
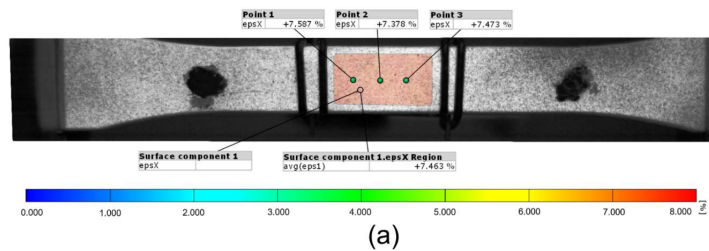


Summary

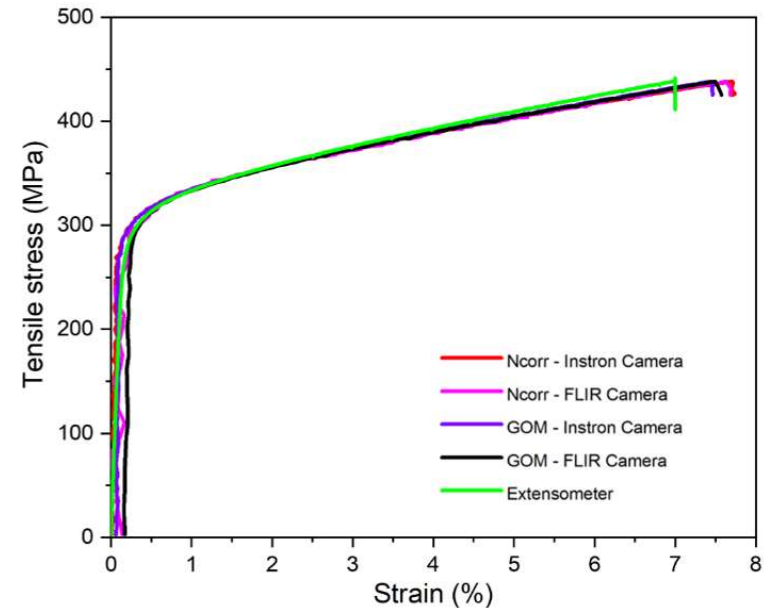
- **Established flat test article design and fabrication with welded and interlocking load transfer mechanism**
- **Buckling is mitigated in flat sample**
- **Specimens could be re-used for material surveillance after cool-down to room temperature**
- **Speckle pattern and DIC setup are optimized**
- **LASER engraving technique instead of paint brushing is being adopted to apply the speckle pattern**

Appendix – Validation Of DIC Setup Room Temperature Tension Test

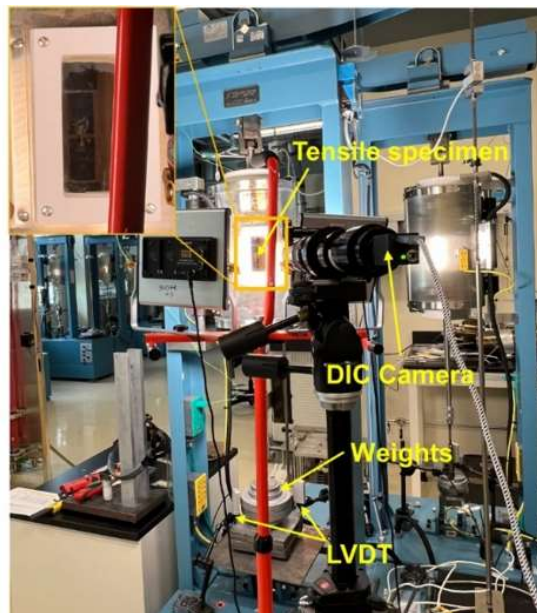
Flat tensile specimen



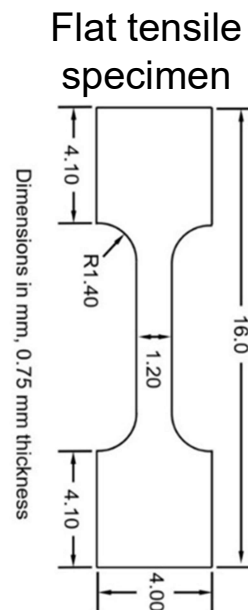
Comparison of DIC vs extensometer data



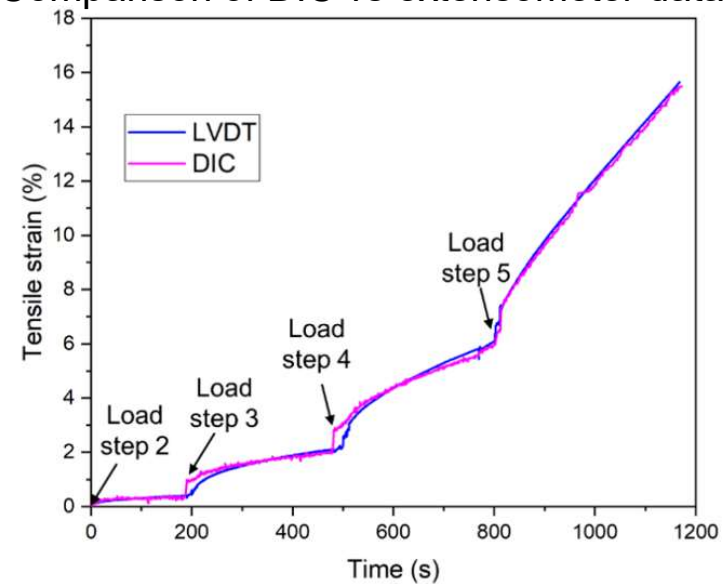
Appendix – Validation Of DIC Setup Elevated Temperature Tension Test



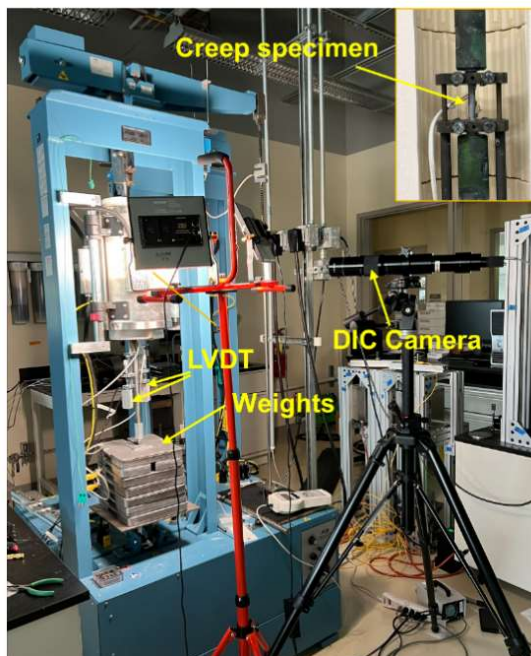
Test setup



Comparison of DIC vs extensometer data

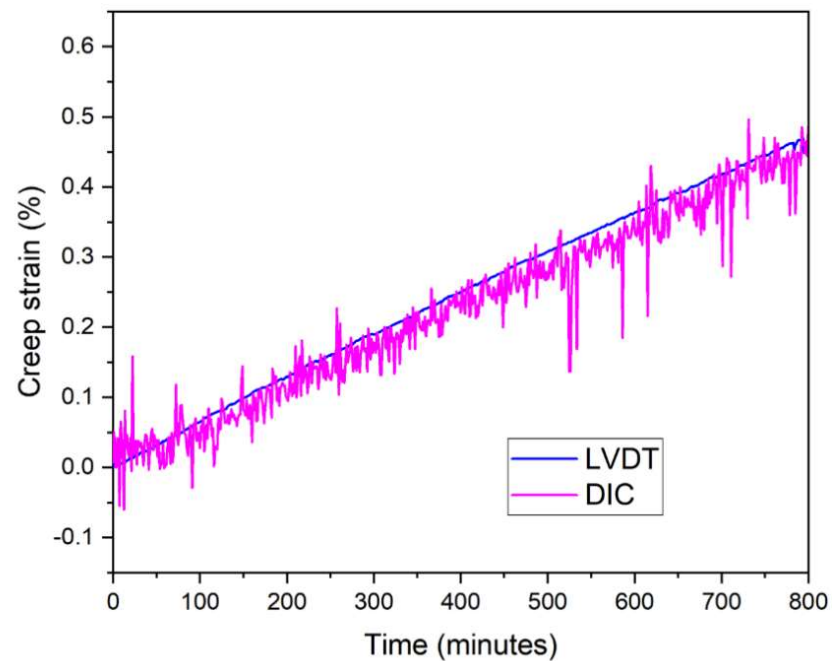


Appendix – Validation Of DIC Setup Creep Test



Test setup with standard
ASTM creep sample

Comparison of DIC vs extensometer data



The background is a collage of various nuclear energy-related images, including a nuclear reactor cooling tower, a close-up of a reactor core, a worker in a hard hat, and a bundle of fuel rods. The images are arranged in a diamond pattern and have a blue-green color scheme.

Thank you

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